Regarding installation of letter boxes, the present target is to provide a letter box in all villages with population over 500. It is expected to achieve the target within two years.

**Statement**

*Statement regarding No. of villeges without Post Offices and Letter Boxes as on* 31-12-93

| S. No. | Name of Circle | Villages without Post offices | Villages without Letter Boxes |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh. | 11927 | 153 |
| 2. | Assam . . | 21144 | 15085 |
| 3. | Bihar . . | 56445 | 46671 |
| 4. | Delhi . . | 63 | — |
| 5. | Gujarat . . | 10070 | — |
| 6. | Haryana . . | 4509 | — |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 14475 | 10756 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir . . . | 5111 | 3650 |
| 9. | Karnataka . | 18644 | 8133 |
| 10. | Kerala . . | — | — |
| 11. | Maharashtra . | 25921 | 5467 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 61655 | 40023 |
| 13. | North-East . | 11478 | 7426 |
| 14. | Orissa . . | 39388 | 33058 |
| 15. | Punjab . . | 9066 | — |
| 16. | Rajasthan . | 27952 | 12826 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu . | 7300 | — |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh . | 94811 | 45167 |
| 19. | West Bengal . | 31236 | 17346 |
| | All India Total | 451195 | 245761 |

**Updated Information of Telephone Directories**

4384. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to provide telephone subscribers, under Hyderabad Telecom, regular and updated telephone directories, with accurate information;

(b) whether it is a fact that frequent changes of telephone numbers are not properly mentioned in such directories; and

(c) what is the system proposed to arrange directories on a regular basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) To ensure regular and updated telephone directories, Hyderabad Telecom District has entered into a comprehensive contract with a firm for printing, binding, supply of paper, advertisement and delivery of adequate no. of copies for a period of 5 years. Wherever there are changes in telephone Nos. in between the publication of telephone directories and their supplemental issues, the same is published in leading newspapers for the information of the subscribers. The changes in numbers are covered in the subsequent issues of supplementary directories wherever possible.

**Postal Facilities in Hyderabad**

4385. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are proposed to improve postal facilities in the industrial townships and outskirts of Hyderabad;

(b) what are the innovative measures proposed to ensure prompt and satisfactory mail delivery and mail collection;

(c) whether the Postal Department propose to monitor the despatch and receipt of money orders; and

(d) whether this monitoring has been done in 1993-94 and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) In the first two years of the Eighth Five Year Plan, ten post offices were opened in industrial townships and outskirts of Hyderabad to improve the postal facilities, the details of which are given at Statement (*See* below).

(b) All the post offices are connected by mail motor service for conveyance of mails and collection of delivery. The clearance of letter boxes and delivery of letters is closely monitored through various channels.

(c) to (d) The receipt and despatch of money orders are being test checked at various post offices and RMS offices through field staff.

**Statement**

*Details of post offices opened in industrial townships and outskirts of Hyderabad in the first two years of the 8th Five Year Plan, i.e.,* 1992-93 *and* 1993-94

| Sl. No. | Name of Post Office |
|---|---|
| 1. | South Banjara Hills (Filmnagar) |
| 2. | Toli Chouki area (Outskirts) |
| 3. | Swarajnagar (Outskirts) |
| 4. | Bharatnagar Colony (Outskirts) |
| 5. | Rangareddynagar (Industrial area) |
| 6. | Snehapuri Colony(Industrial area) |
| 7. | Madhapur (Outskirts) |
| 8. | Vaidehinagar (Outskirts) |
| 9. | G.S.I. SR Bandlaguda (Outskirts). |
| 10. | Kukatpally Housing Board Colony (Outskirts) |

**बकाया धनराशि की वसूली में विलंब**

4386. **श्री राघवजी** : क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में कितने ऐसे मामले हैं जिनमें टेलीफोन उपभोक्ताओं की ओर टेलीफोन विभाग की एक लाख रुपये से भी अधिक धनराशि बकाया है;

(ख) इनमें से कितने विवादास्पद मामले हैं और इन विवादों को निपटाने के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं; और

(ग) जिन मामलों में कोई विवाद अंतर्ग्रस्त नहीं है उनमें वसूली में विलम्ब होने के क्या कारण हैं ?

**विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० वी० रंगैय्या नायडू)** : (क) से (ग) अपेक्षित जानकारी मांगी गई है और इसे सभा पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

**विदिशा में टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज के लिए भूखंड**

4387. **श्री राघवजी** : क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उनके मंत्रालय ने मध्य प्रदेश के विदिशा शहर में एक भूखंड का कब्जा ले लिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस भूखंड पर टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज आदि का निर्माण-कार्य अब तक प्रारंभ न करने के क्या कारण हैं, और

(ग) टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज के उक्त भवन की मांग को देखते हुए क्या विभाग बीच की बाधाओं को दूर करने के बाद भवन का निर्माण-कार्य शीघ्र प्रारंभ करेगा, यदि हां, तो निर्माण-कार्य कब तक प्रारम्भ कर देने की संभावना है ?

**विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी०वी० रंगैय्या नायडू)** : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग) उपर्युक्त भाग "क" को देखते हुए लागू नहीं होता ।

**Postal Services in Orissa**

4388. SHRI RAHAS BIHARI BARIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to upgrade and modernise postal services in the country ;

(b) if so, the brief outlines thereof ;

(c) whether Government have drawn up and scheme in that regard for Orissa ; and

(d) if so, the details of the scheme drawn up thereon for Keonjhar district in that State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) Upgradation and modernisation of postal services is an ongoing and continuous process. In order to expedite delivery of letters between the metro cities. a scheme for delivery of letters posted in one metro meant for another metro within 48 hours has already been put into effect from 2nd April, 1994. In order to expedite operations at the post office counters, personal computer based multi-purpose counter machines are proposed to be installed in major post offices of the country. In order to also expedite delivery of Money Orders, satellite-based money order service is proposed to be introduced in 75 locations in the country during the 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) During 1994-95, 40 personal computer based multi-purpose counter machines are proposed to be installed in various post offices in Orissa, including in the district of Keonjhar. It is also proposed to install satellite-based money order transmission facilities at Sambalpur and Bhubaneswar. This is expected to help in early delivery of money order in all parts of the state including Keonjhar district.